

**TOWN OF  
AMHERSTBURG**



**POLICY NO.: RURAL MAILBOX POLICY**

<b>SOURCE:</b>	<b>Roads Department</b>
<b>SECTION:</b>	
<b>DATE ENACTED:</b>	<b>December 12th, 2011</b>
<b>DATE OF AMENDMENT:</b>	

**1.0 POLICY OVERVIEW**

**1.1 Purpose**

- a) Outline guidelines for the installation of rural mailboxes on Town maintained roads.
- b) To clearly define the Town's responsibility regarding mailbox damage and replacement.

**2.0 POLICY**

**2.1 Mailbox Requirements**

- a) All mailboxes shall meet all applicable Canada Post Standards.
- b) All new and replacement mailboxes shall be installed in the manner shown on the specifications prepared by the Canada Post Corporation. The posts shall not consist of material stronger than a 6 inch (0.15 m) diameter cedar post or a 2 inch (0.05 m) diameter standard wall steel pipe. The bottom of the box shall be 3'6" (1.05 m) from the ground elevation in accordance with postal regulations. The support post shall be erected in a location as shown on attached drawing.
- c) All new and replacement mailboxes shall have a section (minimum 1 inch (0.02 m diameter) of highly reflective material permanently affixed to the front half of the mailbox on the side of the approaching traffic.

**2.2 Location**

- a) The general location of the mailbox will be determined by Canada Post.

- b) The face of the box shall be in line with the edge of the shoulder as shown on the attached drawing. Alternatively, the distance from the edge of the shoulder may be directed by Canada Post.

### **2.3 Damage and Replacement**

The Town will not be responsible for any damage caused by snow plows to mailboxes or posts which are not consistent with the Town's standards.

If, however, a plow comes into physical contact with a mailbox or post which meets the Town's standards and is damaged by the Town's snow removal operations, the property owner will be given two (2) choices for replacement:

1. The post and mailbox will be either repaired or replaced by the Town at the discretion of the Director of Engineering and Infrastructure or his designate. The replacement mailbox, if required, will be a standard metal rural mailbox with 100 mm wooden post similar to the photo attached.

Damaged mailboxes shall be replaced as weather and manpower permits. The completion of winter control services on the roadway is a priority.

If it is determined that the Town will replace the mailbox, the Town will provide a temporary mailbox for the resident. This mailbox will be maintained by the Town until a new mailbox can be installed.

2. The property owner will be provided with a cheque for \$75 based on the cash equivalent of the replacement noted above. This option is for residents who wish to purchase a different style mailbox and complete the installation themselves.

If a mailbox is repeatedly damaged as a result of physical contact, the Town will provide a written recommendation for an alternate installation location. The Town will not be responsible for further damage should the landowner fail to relocate the mailbox as recommended.

The Town will not be responsible for any minor damage caused by snow or slush coming into contact with a mailbox or post during snow removal operations.



## Department of Justice

### Mail Receptacles Regulations (SOR/83-743)

Regulations are current to 2011-11-14 and last amended on 2011-01-17. [Previous Versions](#)

**12.** Where mail delivery service is provided in any area and

(a) any householder or the owner of any apartment building or business premises fails to provide for the reception of mail in accordance with these Regulations, or

(b) the mail receiving facility or the means of access to it at any private house, apartment building or business premises in that area becomes unsuitable or unsafe for the reception of mail,

the Corporation shall send a notice to the householder or the owner of and each tenant in the apartment building or business premises stating that if provision is not made for the reception of mail in accordance with these Regulations, mail shall not be delivered to that address but shall be left with the local postmaster to be collected by the addressee thereof.

SOR/86-105, s. 3(F); SOR/2000-199, s. 14(F).

**13.** (1) Subject to subsection (2), where any householder or the owner of any apartment building or business premises does not make provision for the reception of mail in accordance with these Regulations within the period specified in the notice, mail shall not be delivered to that address but shall be left with the local postmaster to be collected by the addressee thereof.

(2) In the circumstances referred to in paragraph 12(b) mail delivery service may be continued to the address to which the notice referred to in that section is sent until the termination of the period specified in the notice for rectification of the unsuitable or unsafe mail receiving facility or means of access to it.

**14.** In the case of an office complex that contains a mail box assembly and a mail room, where items of mail that are too large to be delivered through a mail box in a mail box assembly or the delivery of which requires that the addressee or the recognized representative of an addressee be contacted personally by the post office representative, those items shall be delivered

(a) through a dutch door from the mail room; or

(b) in such other manner as may be authorized by the local postmaster.

### PART IV

#### RURAL MAIL BOXES

**15.** Mail may be delivered by means of deposit in rural mail boxes and mailable matter may be collected from rural mail boxes where the rural mail box is

(a) constructed in accordance with the specifications set out in Schedule VI;

(b) placed outdoors at a location on a rural mail route approved by the local postmaster; and

(c) located, erected and identified as required by section 16.

**16.** A rural mail box shall be

(a) located along the right hand side of the road according to the courier's line of travel in a position where the courier can reach and service it from his vehicle without impeding pedestrian or vehicular traffic;

(b) erected so that

- (i) the box is securely attached to a fixed post or cantilever arm,
  - (ii) the bottom of the box is approximately 100 cm above the roadway,
  - (iii) the box does not obstruct or obscure other boxes located nearby, and
  - (iv) the box allows the ready delivery or collection of mail; and
- (c) Identified by having the following information printed in permanent lettering not less than 2.5 cm high on the side of the box or on a plate securely attached to the box and placed so as to be visible to the courier as they approach the box while driving on the right-hand side of the road according to their line of travel:
- (i) if civic addressing has been implemented in the municipality and the relevant post office, the civic address or the civic address and the boxholder's name, and
  - (ii) if civic addressing has not been implemented in the municipality, the boxholder's name or a specific Canada Post designator in lieu of the boxholder's name, as arranged with the local postmaster.

SOR/2010-288, s. 1.

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## SCHEDULE VI

(s. 15)

## SPECIFICATIONS FOR RURAL MAIL BOXES

## DESIGN

1. Every rural mail box shall be designed in such a manner that the name plate or the space reserved for the name of the boxholder is not obscured by the signal device.

## MATERIALS

2. The material used for a rural mail box shall

- (a) be sufficiently sturdy to bear the weight of the box and contents without distortion; and
- (b) be sufficiently weatherproof to enable it to withstand the climate in which it is used.

## BOX DIMENSIONS

3. The minimum interior dimensions of a rural mail box shall be

- (a) 45 cm in length by 17.5 cm in width by 17.5 cm in height, in the case of a rectangular box; and
- (b) 45 cm in length by 25 cm in diameter, in the case of a cylindrical box.

## BOX OPENING

4. Every rural mail box shall be equipped with a door that

- (a) is located in the front of the box;
- (b) cannot be secured with a lock;
- (c) has a minimum effective opening of
  - (i) 17.5 cm in width and 17.5 cm in height, if the opening is rectangular, or
  - (ii) 25 cm in diameter, if the opening is round;
- (d) is capable of remaining in the open position while mail is being deposited or withdrawn and shall be a tight fit and self-sealing when closed;
- (e) has a handle, lip, flange or other similar aid for opening it; and
- (f) is constructed of a material sturdy enough to withstand normal every day handling.

## SIGNAL DEVICE

5. (1) Every rural mail box shall be equipped with a signal device that may be rendered visible above the box and that, when it is so visible, will indicate from a distance, either to the courier or the householder, that mail has been delivered or deposited in the box for pickup.

(2) The signal device referred to in subsection (1) shall be

- (a) located on the right hand side when facing the box from the front; and
- (b) affixed so that it does not impede vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

(3) The actuating mechanism of the signal device shall not in any way interfere with the interior of the box.

## MOUNTING

6. The mounting hardware for a rural mail box shall be such as to be flush with the bottom of the interior of the box.

SOR/98-558, s. 7(F); SOR/2000-199, s. 15(F).

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